35.67% for the fluoride dentifrice Colgate Total 15.57%. The P value of the data was <0.01.

CLAIMS

1. A dental instrument for measuring deposits on teeth comprising an elongated portion and at least one curved portion on an end of said elongated portion the curved portion having the general curvature of at least one of posterior teeth and anterior teeth.

2. A dental instrument as in claim 1 wherein said general curvature is that of posterior teeth.

3. A dental instrument as in claim 1 wherein said general curvature is that of anterior teeth.

4. A dental instrument as in claim 1 wherein said elongated portion has a curved portion on each end.

5. A dental instrument as in claim 4 wherein the curved portion in one end has the general curvature of posterior teeth and the general curvature on another end has the general curvature of anterior teeth.

6. A dental instrument as in claim 5 wherein at least one of the general curvature portions is marked with measured segments.

7. A dental instrument as in claim 6 wherein each of the general curvature portions is marked with measured segments.

8. A dental instrument as in claim 1 wherein said general curvature portion is marked with measured segments.

9. A dental instrument as in claim 2 wherein said general curvature portion is marked with measured segments.

10. A dental instrument as in claim 3 wherein said general curvature portion is marked with measured segments.

11. A method of measuring a deposit on a tooth comprising:

(a) treating the tooth so that the deposit can be visualized;

(b) contacting the tooth with a curvature portion of a dental instrument having an elongated portion and a curvature portion, the curvature portion having the general curvature of the tooth undergoing measurement and being marked with measured segments; and

(c) reading the number of measured segments that coincide with the deposit.

12. A method as in claim 11 wherein said tooth is treated with a solution and absorbs a dye from said solution.

13. A method as in claim 11 wherein said dental instrument has an elongated portion with a general curvature portion on at least one end.

14. A method as in claim 13 wherein said dental instrument has a general curvature portion at one end and another end.

15. A method as in claim 14 wherein each general curvature portion has marked segments.

16. A method as in claim 11 wherein said general curvature portion has measured segments.